

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 27, 2015
7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Hubbard, Trustees Dove, Lanning, and Stokes-Cawley, Lieutenant Coon, Village Attorney Byrne

Excused: Trustee Angelillo

Others:	Jonathan Monfiletto	Skaneateles JOURNAL
	Jason Gabak	Skaneateles PRESS
	Dave Colegrove	22 Fennell Street
	Tara Lynn	Skaneateles Chamber of Commerce
	Tom Ierardi	1461 New Seneca Turnpike (Finger Lakes on Tap)
	Linda Bonnell	23 Griffin Street
	Doug Clark	24 W. Lake Street
	Gino & Teresa Vitale	Skaneateles Artisans
	Ed Levine	Skaneateles Artisans

7:30 p.m. – Public Hearing – Local Law #2 of 2015 – Mayor Hubbard read aloud the Notice of the Public Hearing for Local Law #2 of 2015 that was published in the Skaneateles Journal edition of July 29, 2015. He also read aloud the text of the proposed Local Law as follows: Chapter 212 of the Village Code of the Village of Skaneateles (“Vehicle and Traffic”) is hereby amended to add a new Article VIII (“Vehicular Use Prohibited”), to read as follows: “Article VIII-Vehicular Use Prohibited. Section 212-41. Vehicular use of the entrance/exit to the municipal parking lot, located in an alley between structures at 22 Jordan Street and 8 Jordan Street, is prohibited.” Mayor Hubbard asked for discussion among the Trustees. In response to Trustee Lanning recognizing a letter received today from Atty. Lynn on behalf of Bill Lynn, the owner of the property at 22 Jordan Street, Atty. Byrne said we will hold the Public Hearing as it was advertised, but it could keep it open. Relative to the 30-day lease of the property that Trustee Lanning asked about, Atty. Byrne said it could be a longer lease, and probably would be if a new lease were to be put in place, but there may be other considerations as well. He commented that Mr. Lynn has significant control with a 30-day lease. Trustee Lanning asked if it would be in the Village’s best interest to purchase the alley. Atty. Byrne said that is not for him to say; that would be a Village Board decision. He advised Clerk-Treasurer Couch that the record should reflect receipt of the August 27, 2015 letter from Atty. Tim Lynn on behalf of Bill Lynn and the August 26, 2015 email from SVFD Chief Evans. Mayor Hubbard opened the Public Hearing to comments from the floor. Doug Clark jestingly said he used to work at Doug’s Fish Fry and still owns the brick building in the alley behind the fish fry. The other buildings (the fish fry and north to and including the green building) were sold to Mark Edwards. He clarified that the green building is actually 16 Jordan Street. Mr. Clark said the alley is getting dangerous and that may be in part because of the fish fry. He and Mark agree that heading into the Municipal Lot from Jordan Street is dangerous because of the pedestrian traffic; they wouldn’t mind prohibiting vehicles. They would however still need access to the doorway to the brick building and the door to 16 Jordan Street – both of which are off the alley. He also advised that every so often a truck backs in to remove frying oil and Mark parks behind the green building and owns 10-12 feet of the area. He also noted that snow plows, emergency vehicles, etc. would need occasional access. Mr. Clark said he wishes Bill Lynn was present. Linda Bonnell said she works at Doug’s Fish Fry and asked what the purpose of the local law is. If it is to cut down on vehicular traffic then it is a good idea. If the purpose is to make it safer, that is also okay. She questioned what Mr. Lynn’s plans are and agreed with Mr. Clark that it is too bad that he is not present. Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tara Lynn said she has had multiple conversations with Bill and each time the safety issue was the main focus. She said she sits in the Chamber Office (that is in the alley) and watches cars flying by and sees lots of foot traffic also. Bill Lynn’s primary purpose is safety. Linda Bonnell asked if the Board knows why Bill Lynn plans to do this. Trustee Dove said it is really more of our idea and for safety. Trustee Lanning said the Fire Department expressed their concerns as it relates to fire protection and the need for access by emergency vehicles. Someone in the audience asked if a speed bump could be installed. Director Lynn said it is not

just about speed; there is heavy traffic. Doug Clark said he would like to speak for Mark Edwards who is out-of-town on vacation. Mark wouldn't mind if the alley was closed off to vehicles but open to pedestrians. The alley by the Town Office may be more utilized without the other and we wouldn't want more traffic in the alley next to F. Oliver's. That alley doesn't have a lot of traffic and that's the way it should be. A lady in the audience suggested considering making the entrance off Genesee Street (next to M&T Bank) one way – allow traffic to exit, but not enter. In response to Trustee Lanning, Atty. Byrne confirmed that the Village owns the alley next to the Town Office, as well as next to the Byrne Dairy, Key Bank, State Street, and Genesee Street. In light of Atty. Lynn's letter on behalf of Bill Lynn, Trustee Lanning said he'd like to keep the public hearing open. Relative to the bollards, Atty. Byrne said some styles are placed in a sleeve in the ground and locked, but there are also ones that breakaway (preferred by the Firemen as they could drive over the bollards allowing quicker response). Regarding the curb cut mentioned in Atty. Lynn's letter, Atty. Byrne said the Village isn't proposing doing anything to the curb. **Resolution #2015-176:** On the motion of Trustee Lanning, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to keep the Public Hearing open to the second meeting in September (9/24/15).

Minutes – Resolution #2015-177: On the motion of Trustee Dove, seconded by Trustee Lanning, it was resolved and carried (3-0 in favor with Trustee Stokes-Cawley abstaining as she was not present at the meeting) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 13, 2015 as presented.

Correspondence & Announcements - Mayor Hubbard reviewed the following:

- A very nice, creative thank you note from the Playday Program for allowing them to visit Village Hall
- Costco Wholesale invitation to sign up for a Costco membership at a special reception at their Camillus warehouse on Friday, September 4 from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Copy of Alan Dolmatch's letter to the Town of Skaneateles suggesting an alternative use for the Allyn Arena
- Reminders: Public Hearing on Local Law #3 of 2015 – Moratorium of Chapter 225-Tues. 9/1/15, 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Station
- Solarize CNY free public workshop – Wednesday, September 30, 7-8:00 p.m. at the Skaneateles Fire Department
- Copy of the NYS DEC letter to City of Syracuse Water Dept. Commissioner Somers relative to Skaneateles Lake Dam
- * **Other Matters That Have Come Before the Board since Posting the Agenda***
- Receipt of letter from Atty. Bob Smith requesting formation of a new Town Sewer District.
- NYS Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation letter advising of the nomination to the National and State Registers of Historic Places for Bill Eberhardt's properties at 28 W. Genesee St. and 6 Hannum Street
- Letter from Alan Dolmatch Re: Interval Rentals: Transient Accommodations in the Village

Director of Municipal Operations (DMO) – DMO Harty reported the following:

DPW -

- Working on catch basin repairs.
- Completed pump station repairs, pump replacement at Gayle Road Sewer pump station
- Repaired water service leaks on East Genesee Street and repaired major water main leak on Heather Woods Ct in Heritage Woods subdivision.
- Working on pavement repairs from various water leak and sewer repairs.
- Upcoming
 - o painting new striping at Fire Department
 - o sanitary sewer cleaning
 - o Miscellaneous drainage projects.
- Fall Brush pickup will be from September 28 through October 18th. Will switch to leaves only after that.**

Electric

- Continuing preparation for substation project including meeting with CHA to review design and materials to be ordered.
- Installing demo LED street lights in 4 locations throughout the Village.
- Met with Landis & Gyr in preparation of electric meter and collector deployment.

Water

- Obtaining quotes for installation of dry hydrant on bridge at outlet

Trustee Lanning mentioned that the Municipal Board summary notes indicated that we were going to reprioritize our East Lake Street water improvements to address some of the 4" and 6" water mains. He expressed concern that the East Lake Street water project was important and needed to be top priority. DMO Harty said that the notes were slightly incorrect. We are still scheduled to do East Lake Street next year but will need to consider subsequent projects/priority due to the issues we are seeing this year with water leaks on old cast iron mains and particularly the leaded goose-neck services.

Status of NYSERDA Grant – DMO Harty said there is no update.

Status / schedule Village Hall Site Improvement Bids and Recommendation for Contract Award –

DMO reported that 6 competitive bids were received for the site improvements at Village Hall. Subsequent to the bid opening and thorough evaluation of the bids received, a memo was addressed to the Village Board. DMO Harty said she explained that the apparent low bid was received from Lake Country Construction and Contour, but was deemed incomplete and unresponsive as it was missing a bid surety/bid bond. The second lowest bid was received from E-Z Paving from Fulton, NY and was reviewed and determined to be complete. DMO Harty said she contacted three references for current and previous work completed by E-Z Paving and ascertained them to be responsive, responsible and of good quality. She said the contract price is fair and reasonable for the anticipated work and she recommends that the Village Board award the construction contract to E-Z Paving. Atty. Byrne noted that there were actually 7 bids, but one was rejected. The difference in bid price between Lake Country Construction and E-Z Paving was only \$1,300. In response to Trustee Dove, DMO Harty said the highest bid of \$469,000 was from WD Malone. Atty. Byrne said he thinks the response was excellent, especially in the summer when there are so many other projects. Mayor Hubbard said he wanted to state the attributes of the project that has been studied significantly, especially by the Planning Board. Presently, we have an unsafe condition out front and the Village doesn't want to support "playing chicken". Once the project is complete, it will be much safer than it is currently. Relative to parking, it is important to comply with our own zoning ordinances that preference parking in the rear. Mayor Hubbard said we are stewards of Village property – there is now an asphalt jungle with no control of runoff. The project will reduce the asphalt and improve drainage. Trustee Dove said that while she would love to see the project at \$200,000.00, compared to the high bid the Village will be getting an improved frontage that we can be proud of for around \$300,000. Trustee Stokes-Cawley said the project will add something pretty to a not so attractive area while reducing pollution at the same time. **Resolution #2015-178:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and carried (3-1 in favor with Trustee Lanning voting no) to award the bid to E-Z Paving in the amount of \$300,383.00.

Status of Masonic Temple and Gazebo Restrooms – DMO Harty said function has been indicative of the quantity of people in the Village.

Status of Police Dept. review of petitioned 4-way stop at W. Eliz. St. and Orchard Rd. – Lieutenant Coon said he is looking at and researching the number of accidents at the intersection of West Elizabeth Street and Orchard Road. A final evaluation should be ready for the next meeting on Thursday, September 10.

Follow-up to Teresa Vitale's plea for a sandwich board sign – Trustee Dove said she was taken with Teresa Vitale's eloquent talk two weeks ago at the Village Board Meeting of August 13. Since then she has done a lot of thinking and has a suggestion - perhaps we could authorize 5 sandwich boards to direct

people to businesses that are off the main street, and for community events. Trustee Dove said she thinks it could come under the heading of directional/wayfaring signage in our zoning laws. These sandwich board signs could replace many of the sandwich boards that community organizations put up at the major intersections. We would have to get their buy-in to use these main sandwich boards to advertise their event, but I think most would be willing to do that if we explain we are trying to keep the streets cleaner, and maintain the pristine look of our village, while still providing information to our residents and visitors. Trustee Dove said she asked Chamber Executive Director Lynn to talk to her board; Director Lynn said so far she has great support. Trustee Dove said section 225-62 of the Village Code talks about Directory signs being authorized by the Village Board. The five locations she is suggesting are 1) corner of Hannum and Genesee (promote the Creamery, new Tap House, and other Fennell Street businesses); 2) corner of Jordan and Genesee (promoting businesses at Fennell and beyond on Jordan – like Moro’s, Pretzel Factory, Farmers Market, etc.); 3) corner of M&T Bank and Masonic Temple (promoting Chamber, bathrooms (get rid of the other sandwich board at this location directing to the bathrooms), Skaneateles Scoops, etc. 4) corner of Fennell and Jordan; 5) corner of West Genesee and West Lake Road (promoting events down West Lake, and various businesses down West Lake). CEO Crompt said he thinks it is a good idea and noted that sandwich boards will still be allowed on premise against the building only. Trustee Lanning asked about any restrictions on how far down the road would be allowed. Director Lynn said she hears about the stress of directing people to various locations of events. Atty. Byrne said signs of this nature would require a Local Law. In talking about signs on West Genesee Street and Kane Ave., Mayor Hubbard said some sandwich board signs are more significant to vehicular traffic than to pedestrians. Trustee Lanning questioned if there’d be any impact on advertising hockey games, scholastic events, etc. Director Lynn said the goal is to let people know about the businesses that are always there. Lengthy discussion continued focusing on locations for signs, the number of signs, the directory sign at the bridge, etc. Teresa Vitale spoke again of the need for a sign for Skaneateles Artisans and the other Fennell Street businesses. Director Lynn asked if a sign can be placed on someone else’s property if permission is granted. Atty. Byrne said the code would have to be changed. Trustee Dove said her interpretation of the code is that the Trustees have the power to issue a permit to the Chamber for the placement of five sandwich-board-style signs at specific locations for the purpose of advertising businesses and events. She pointed to Code section 225-64(G), which allows the Trustees to issue a permit for “Directory Sign”. Atty. Byrne said sandwich board signs are prohibited in the Code. Discussion continued and ultimately concluded that any further conversation this evening is not fair to Atty. Byrne as he wasn’t aware that the Board would be asked to take formal action tonight. Atty. Byrne said Teresa Vitale’s sign was at the bridge for quite some time before others started doing the same, so Code Enforcement Officer Crompt had to tell them to remove the sign. He reminded everyone that the Code intends to regulate signs and thereby protect property values, enhance and protect the physical appearance of the community, reduce sign distractions and obstructions, reduce hazards that may be caused by signs projecting over public rights-of-way, etc. Trustee Dove said she will add this topic to the Parking/Downtown Committee discussions.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Sewer District 6 – Mayor Hubbard explained that the September 1998 contract between the Village and Town with regard to Town Sewer District 6 contains a clause requiring the Village’s consent to any proposed change of use of a structure in the district. Jessie Carbone and Michele Gardner request to open Skaneateles Fitness in the building, changing its use with no anticipated increase in sewer use beyond the two existing bathrooms. In response to Trustee Lanning, Atty. Byrne said this is Richard Hood’s property at 1410 E. Genesee Street Road across from Byrne Dairy. He said he is comfortable that the proposed change of use in this case will not likely result in a significant increase in flow. DMO Harty said she doesn’t have any issues either. **Resolution #2015-179:** On the motion of Trustee Lanning, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to approve the change of use at the property at 1410 E. Genesee Street Road in Town Sewer District #6. In response to Atty. Byrne, Clerk-Treasurer Couch said notice of the approval is ready to be signed and will be mailed to the Town Planning Board tomorrow morning.

Resolution Adopting Comprehensive Plan 2015 – Trustee Stokes-Cawley said the Village needs to adopt the Joint Comprehensive Plan adopted by the Town of Skaneateles. Trustee Lanning said he is confused by item 9 & 10 on the agenda. Atty. Byrne said adoption of the plan is a two-step process for the Village; first, the adoption of the Resolution, and second, the adoption of a local law. The second step is required in the Village because the existing comprehensive plan was adopted in 1996 by means of a local law, so any amendment or replacement must also be approved by means of a local law. Trustee Dove asked what would happen if we heard something at the public hearing for the local law that changes our mind. Atty. Byrne said he'd be surprised if that happens as there have already been numerous reviews. In response to Trustee Lanning noting that C3 of the Environment Assessment is checked no, Trustee Stokes-Cawley said the SEQR was done during a Town Board Meeting. Atty. Byrne said the Town Board, as lead agency, adopted the resolution. Trustee Lanning said he'd prefer to have the Public Hearing before adopting the resolution. Atty. Byrne said the Board could adopt the resolution the same night at the Public Hearing. Trustee Stokes-Cawley commented that the document is visionary.

Authorize Publication of Notice of Critical Impact Public Hearing – Resolution #2015-180: On the motion of Trustee Lanning, seconded by Trustee Stokes-Cawley it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to authorize publication of Notice of Public Hearing on a Local Law approving the new Comprehensive Plan at the Regular Meeting of Thursday, September 24, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Office.

Weitsman Application for Fireworks – Relative to the application, on behalf of Adam Weitsman, for a fireworks permit in Lake View Cemetery, Trustee Lanning said war veterans and families' loved ones are buried there and the cemetery is sacred ground that shouldn't be desecrated. SVFD Chief Evans emailed expressing concern about the cemetery's close proximity to Heritage Woods, the homes and businesses on West Genesee Street and the structures along Kane Avenue, Orchard Road, etc. He said all present a hazard due to the close proximity to the proposed launch site depending on the way the wind blows. At the conclusion of his email, Chief Evans wrote that Lake View Cemetery is a place of remembrance and is solemn in nature, not one of revelry. Atty. Byrne said he and Clerk/Treasurer Couch recall one other request a few years ago. Although neither remembers who the request came from, it was rejected. Mayor Hubbard said these are nuisance applications and suggested a future Local Law to limit fireworks displays to the Skaneateles Volunteer Fire Department only. **Resolution #2015-181:** On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to deny the application for a fireworks permit in Lake View Cemetery.

Public Comment – Relative to Mr. Weitsman's request for fireworks, Trustee Lanning asked if the Village has any jurisdiction over the lake. Atty. Byrne said ours on the water is limited and noted that the pier is owned by the City of Syracuse. A lady in the audience said she is happy the Board did not approve the fireworks – her whole family is buried in Lake View Cemetery and she doesn't think it is a fitting place for fireworks. She also commented that she is concerned that there are not more Police Officers downtown. She sits in the downtown area and sees many dangerous situations.

Approval of Bills –Resolution #2015-182: On the motion of Trustee Lanning, seconded by Trustee Dove, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) that bills from Abstract #6 be audited and paid as follows:

General Fund	Vouchers #1460-1509	Checks #17703-17751	\$ 29,662.75
Sewer Fund	Vouchers #328-338	Checks #5004-5014	\$ 5,254.93
Electric Fund	Vouchers #394-407	Checks #5762-5775	\$113,126.00
Water Fund	Vouchers #192-198	Checks #3925-3931	\$ 5,254.93

In discussing the bills, in response to Trustee Lanning, DMO Harty said Duke's Root Control is hired to remove tree roots from sewer lines. Trustee Dove asked about the Fingerlakes Landscape & Design invoice; a Fire Department charge for new Norway spruces, weeding, & spraying.

Adjournment – Resolution #2015-183: On the motion of Trustee Stokes-Cawley, seconded by Trustee Lanning, it was resolved and unanimously carried (4-0 in favor) to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.



Patty Couch, Vill. Admin./Clerk-Treasurer